

Remarks

Entry of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. Only formal changes have been made to the claims; accordingly, no new matter was added to the application. After entry of the amendment, claims 4, 12-17, 24 and 28, 29, 31 and 32 will be pending.

Restriction Requirement. The Examiner has restricted the claims into four groups as follows:

- I. Claims 1-17, 25-35;
- II. Claims 18, 19 and 36;
- III. Claims 20-22; and
- IV. Claims 20-22.

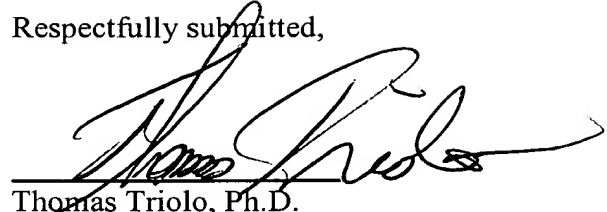
The Examiner has also required Applicants to elect, from the group of claims elected, a single nucleotide or amino acid sequence for prosecution.

Applicants herein elect the Claims of **group I** and select the nucleic acid comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Conclusion

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas Triolo', is written over a horizontal line.

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